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Didn't Know Shaw, Marina Tells Court

By Preston McGraw

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 29 (UPI)—Marina Oswald Porter, wearing a gray miniskirt, today testified she never heard of the men Lee Harvey Oswald allegedly conspired with to kill President John F. Kennedy and did not believe Oswald knew them either.

Oswald's widow led off the defense case after District Judge Edward A. Haggerty refused to order a 12-man jury to acquit Clay L. Shaw of charges he was one of the conspirators.

Nervously twisting her hands in her lap, the Russian-born Mrs. Porter, now the wife of a Dallas businessman, said she did not know Shaw, who is accused of conspiring with Oswald in New Orleans in 1963, David W. Ferrie, the other alleged conspirator, or Perry Raymond Russo, who said he witnessed the plot.

She said she did not believe Oswald knew any of the three, but admitted on cross-examination he never told her about any of his friends.

She said he never appeared unshaven, dirty and looking like a "hippie," as Russo described him, that he never used the alias "Leon" and that he never lived apart from her during the time they spent in New Orleans.

See SHAW, A7, Col. 4

United Press International

Marina Oswald Porter arriving at New Orleans courthouse with her husband, Kenneth.

Oswald Didn't Know Shaw—Marina

SHAW, From A1

President Kennedy was shot to death Nov. 22, 1963, in Dallas. The Warren Commission concluded that Oswald was the lone assassin.

Although Shaw is charged only with conspiring with Oswald and Ferrie in the spring and summer of 1963, and not with the actual assassination, District Attorney Jim Garrison contends the presidential murder was committed by more than one person.

"Did you ever see Lee Harvey Oswald in such a condition that he could resemble a beatnik or hippie?" defense Attorney F. Irvin Dymond asked Mrs. Porter.

"No," she said.

"Did he ever have long hair?"

"No."

"Do you know or are you familiar with the name Clay Shaw?"

"No."

"Have you ever heard the name David W. Ferrie or Dave Ferrie?"

"No."

"Did you know Dave Ferrie?"

"No, sir."

"To your knowledge, did Lee Harvey Oswald ever know a man by the name of Dave Ferrie?"

"As far as I know my husband never knew a man by that name," she replied.

"Is the name Perry Raymond Russo familiar to you?"

"No."

"Did your late husband ever know him?"

"No, sir."

Russo's Testimony . . .

Russo testified earlier he overheard Shaw, Ferrie and Oswald at a party, conspiring to assassinate Mr. Kennedy in the fall of 1963.

On cross examination, Mrs. Porter said Oswald never told her even the names of people he worked with, nor the nature of his job at a coffee company.

Oswald and his wife lived in New Orleans until a few weeks before the assassination, when they left and went to Dallas. Mrs. Oswald moved in with Ruth Paine, a friend, in the suburban city of Irving.

Another defense witness, Lloyd J. Cobb, an attorney and president of the New Orleans International Trade Mart, said in the 90 days preceding Oct. 8, 1963, he and Shaw worked constantly together, seven days a week and at all hours. Shaw was managing director of the Trade Mart and Cobb said they were trying to get up enough leases to support a $12 million bond issue to build a new building.

The period would have been the one during which Russo said he witnessed the conspiracy at a party at Ferrie's French Quarter apartment.

Trip to West Coast

Goldie Naomi Moore, Shaw's secretary, testified that Shaw's trip to the West Coast that put him in San Francisco on the day of the assassination was taken at the request of the Columbia Basin Import Club in Portland, which had invited him to speak.

The prosecution contends the West Coast trip was to establish an alibi.

The prosecution hammered away on cross-examination of Mrs. Porter about Oswald's secretiveness about his activities.

"Did he tell you much about what he was doing down here in New Orleans?" Assistant District Attorney James Alcock asked.

"No, sir."

"Matter of fact, he never told you much about anything, did he?"

Mrs. Porter said that was right. She also said Oswald did not drive in New Orleans, and they did not own a car. She said she did not think he could drive at all.

Identified as Driver

A state witness at the start of the trial identified Oswald as a man who drove to Clinton, La., in late August or early September, 1963, in an old automobile.

She said Mrs. Paine "had a station wagon—light color," but on the day of the assassination it was "at home."

"Did she leave home or did the auto leave the house anytime shortly after the assassination?" Dymond asked.

"No," Mrs. Porter said.

Two state witnesses had testified they saw Oswald come down a grassy slope from the Texas School Book Depository shortly after Mr. Kennedy was murdered and get into a light colored station wagon driven by "a Latin."

One of them said he heard Oswald say in police headquarters that the station wagon was Mrs. Paine's, but "don't drag her into this."

[In Washington, General Sessions Court Judge Charles W. Halleck said that a court order directing the National Archivist to appear as a prosecution witness—with pictures and X-rays of the Kennedy autopsy—no longer stands because the prosecution has finished its case.

[Thus, the autopsy materials and other assassination artifacts will remain in the archives.]

Pompidou Announces Plans to Visit U.S.

PARIS, Feb. 21 (AP)—Former Premier Georges Pompidou, who had said he will be a candidate in France's next presidential election, Thursday announced plans to visit the Unietd States in the coming months.

Pompidou, eased out as premier last July and now a deputy in the National Assembly, gave no dates for his trip to the United States. He said he hoped to meet U.S. political leaders, see American industrial and space facilities and visit the country-side. He said he also would like to have a look at universities and "I hope they will be calm."

Decline Is Noted In Brown Pelicans

NEW YORK, Feb. 21 (UPI)—Naturalists expressed concern today over the decline in numbers of the brown pelican in the United States.

The National Audubon Society reported that the brown pelican population in Louisiana and Texas has shown a sharp decline in the past 10 years. However, the Society noted that the pelican is "still apparently in good shape" in Florida. The Society listed water pollution as the major factor causing the decline.